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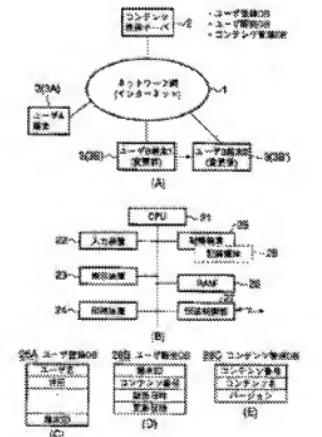
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(54) INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM, INFORMATION PROVIDING METHOD AND PROGRAM

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To re-purchase digital contents data which a user has purchased once by using a simple operation, without purchasing it again.

SOLUTION: When a content providing server 2 provides information designated by the user, of a plurality of digital content data via a network 1, a terminal check program for obtaining the terminal ID of a user terminal 3 is transmitted to the user terminal 3 at a provision side to obtain the terminal ID from the user terminal 3, and the terminal ID obtained is corresponded to a content number to manage it by a user sales DB 26B. In the case where re-purchasing of the content provided to the user is submitted, the terminal ID is obtained in a manner similar to the above case. In the case where the terminal ID has been stored in the user sales DB 26B, the contents are stored so as to correspond to the terminal ID and provided at the past are retransmitted to the user terminal 3.



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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention]This invention relates to the program for making a computer realize the information service system which provides the information which the user specified among two or more information, an information service method, and the function of such an information service system.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art]The technique of downloading charged digital contents data to a computer, and generally, saving it via network networks, such as the Internet, from the server of the data offer origin, at the hard disk and memory device on a computer is taken.

[0003]

[Problem to be solved by the invention]Thus, the digital contents of the charge downloaded to the computer, The user is left about the preservation after the purchase, and contents data must be again purchased about the data loss by exchange of the case where a device breaks down by a disk crush etc., or OS, change of a computer, etc.

[0004] If it is in the former, when selling various digital contents, such as application software, When an original identification code is given for every contents, it sells to a user and the contents of the contents are updated by upgrade etc., There is service which provides the upgraded contents a bargain price or for nothing on condition of transmission of the above-mentioned identification code by the demand of the updated contents from the user who purchased the contents.

[0005]even if there is this kind of service -- origin -- unless the becoming contents themselves exist, it cannot respond only by upgrade.

[0006]Although there are some which could be made to carry out re acquisition of the contents later by registering as a user to purchase contents, in order to be the acquisition, the time and effort which inputs User Information, such as user ID which registered as a user, is required.

[0007]Without a user purchasing the digital contents data concerned again, after purchasing charged digital contents data, the problem of this invention is easy operation and is being able to be made to

carry out re acquisition of the digital contents data concerned.

[0008]

[Means for solving problem]In order to attain the above-mentioned purpose, as for the information service system by this invention, this invention is characterized by that the information service system which provides the information which the user specified among two or more information (digital contents) comprises the following.

The terminal-identification-information acquisition means which acquires terminal identification information from the terminal of the providing destination when the information specified by a user is provided via a network.

The provided information management tool which matches with the above-mentioned provided information (for example, contents number peculiar to provided information) the terminal identification information (for example, terminal ID) acquired by the above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition means, and manages it.

The terminal-identification-information acquisition control means which makes the above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition means acquire terminal identification information from the terminal of the demand origin when there is a demand of the re acquisition of provided information to a user.

When judged with memorizing by the judging means which judges whether the terminal identification information acquired [above-mentioned] is memorized by the above-mentioned provided information management tool, and the above-mentioned judging means, The information re-providing means which re-provides the information on past offer memorized by the above-mentioned provided information management tool corresponding to the terminal identification information to the terminal.

[0009]When the information service method by this invention provides the information specified by a user via a network among two or more information (digital contents), Acquire terminal identification information from the terminal of the providing destination, and the acquired terminal identification information (for example, terminal ID), Match with the above-mentioned provided information (for example, contents number peculiar to provided information), and it manages, When there is a demand of the re acquisition of provided information to a user, terminal identification information is acquired from the terminal of the demand origin, It judges whether the terminal identification information is memorized, and when memorizing, the information on past offer memorized corresponding to the terminal identification information is re-provided to the terminal.

[0010]The function which acquires terminal identification information from the terminal of the providing destination when the program by this invention provides a computer with the information specified by a user via a network among two or more information (digital contents), The function to match the acquired terminal identification information (for example, terminal ID) with the above-mentioned provided information (for example, contents number peculiar to provided information), and to manage it, When there is a demand of the re acquisition of provided information to a user, terminal identification information from the terminal of the demand origin Acquisition *****, It is characterized

by being for realizing the function to judge whether the terminal identification information is memorized, and the function to re-provide the information on past offer memorized corresponding to the terminal identification information to the terminal when memorizing.

[0011]Namely, when the information specified by a user is provided to the user's terminal according to the information service system of this invention, an information service method, and the program, Acquire the terminal identification information of the terminal automatically, and the terminal identification information and above-mentioned specification information which were acquired are matched and managed, About the information which acquired the terminal identification information automatically also when there was a demand of the re acquisition of information, and was provided in the past to the terminal. Since it enabled it to re-provide the information promptly, when the re acquisition of the information is needed in the terminal which acquired information in the past, only the demand of the re acquisition using the terminal can perform re acquisition of the information promptly.

[0012]Acquisition of the above-mentioned terminal identification information in the above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition means, The terminal checking program for acquiring the terminal identification information of the terminal is transmitted to the terminal of the above-mentioned providing destination, Acquire terminal identification information from the terminal, and the above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition control means, When there is a demand of the re acquisition of provided information to a user, the above-mentioned terminal checking program is made to transmit to the above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition means, and it may be made to make it acquire terminal identification information from the terminal to the terminal of the demand origin.

[0013]That is, since a terminal checking program is transmitted to a terminal, it can respond also to the terminal which does not have such a terminal checking program beforehand.

[0014]In re-offer of the provided information by the above-mentioned information re-providing means, It is preferred to acquire the list of the provided information of the past memorized by the above-mentioned provided information management tool corresponding to the above-mentioned terminal identification information, to transmit the acquired list to the request terminal, and to transmit the specified provided information by specification of the provided information from the above-mentioned request terminal.

[0015]That is, since the list of the information acquired in the past in the terminal can be checked on the occasion of the re acquisition of the above-mentioned provided information, the information which needs re acquisition can be specified easily.

[0016]Or when there is a demand of the re acquisition of the above-mentioned information. the situation (for example, applicable contents nothing -- or) where the provided information cannot be used in the terminal of the demand origin Provide further a state decision means to judge whether it is in ** which there can be contents and cannot access and in which the part has broken, and the above-mentioned information re-providing means, When judged with it being in the situation where the provided information cannot be used in the terminal of a requiring agency by the above-

mentioned state decision means, it is preferred to perform re-offer of the above-mentioned information.

[0017]That is, it judges whether it is in the situation where the provided information cannot be used in the apparatus terminal of the demand origin, on the occasion of the re acquisition of the above-mentioned provided information, re-offer only about the information on the situation which is not made is attained, and unnecessary re-offer can be prevented.

[0018]User Information about the user of the terminal also memorizes the above-mentioned provided information management tool, and the above-mentioned information re-providing means, When judged with there being no memory by the judgment by the above-mentioned terminal identification information by the above-mentioned judging means, Distinguish whether you are a user who is in agreement with User Information memorized by the above-mentioned provided information management tool, if the user of the terminal is a user in agreement, he re-provides the above-mentioned provided information to the terminal, and. It is preferred to change the terminal identification information managed by the above-mentioned provided information management tool corresponding to the provided information into the above-mentioned terminal identification information acquired newly.

[0019]That is, when the re acquisition of information is needed by change of a terminal etc., the re acquisition of the information over the new terminal becomes possible on user authentication.

[0020][0 this invention is 20]. The information service system by this invention is characterized by that the information which provides the information which the user specified among two or more pay information (pay content) comprises:

Terminal identification which is MU, transmits the terminal checking program for acquiring the terminal identification information of the terminal to the terminal of the providing destination, and acquires terminal identification information from the terminal when the information specified by a user is provided via a network.

Re-offer or new offer of information is distinguished to the terminal corresponding to the terminal identification information acquired by the acquisition means and the above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition means by judging whether it is finishing [offer of the information on the above-mentioned specification].

According to the discriminated result by the discriminating means and the above-mentioned discriminating means, the charge amount of payment to the specification information is changed.

[0021]When the information service method by this invention provides the information specified by a user via a network among two or more pay information (pay content), it receives the terminal of the providing destination, The terminal checking program for acquiring the terminal identification information of the terminal is transmitted, By acquiring terminal identification information from the terminal, and judging whether it is finishing [offer of the information on the above-mentioned specification] to the terminal corresponding to the acquired terminal identification information, re-offer or new offer of information is distinguished and the charge amount of payment to the specification

information is changed according to the discriminated result.

[0022]When the program by this invention provides a computer with the information specified by a user via a network among two or more pay information (pay content), it receives the terminal of the providing destination, The terminal checking program for acquiring the terminal identification information of the terminal is transmitted, To the function which acquires terminal identification information from the terminal, and the terminal corresponding to the acquired terminal identification information by judging whether it is finishing [offer of the information on the above-mentioned specification], It is characterized by being for realizing the function which distinguishes re-offer or new offer of information, and the function to change the charge amount of payment to the specification information according to the discriminated result.

[0023]Namely, according to the information service system of this invention, an information service method, and the program. Whether when the information specified by a user is provided to a user terminal, offer of the specification information over the terminal used as the providing destination turns into re-offer, and whether it becomes new offer, Since it was made to distinguish from the terminal automatically based on the terminal identification information acquired automatically, If a user has, though he forgets whether it is having received offer of the specification information in the past in the terminal used now, Since it judges automatically whether offer to the terminal is re-offer, and whether it is new offer on the side which provides the information, offer of the disadvantage information which is not can be received.

[0024]Even if it turns out that offer of the information was received at the terminal, may lose the information for some Reasons (for example, the case where a device breaks down by a disk crush etc., exchange of OS, etc.), but, in that case -- even if come out and it is -- an offer of information for the second time at the terminal -- even requiring -- if it carries out, the offer of information in a different charge from new offer can be received.

[0025]As for the above-mentioned alteration means, in new offer of the above-mentioned information, it is preferred to judge further whether it is finishing [offer] to the terminal for the information (previous version contents) relevant to the information, and to change the charge amount of payment to the specification information according to the decided result.

[0026]That is, though the above-mentioned information which is going to receive offer is information new for the terminal, if the information relevant to the specification information is in the terminal, an offer of information can be received in a different amount of money from new offer treated favorably.

[0027]

[Mode for carrying out the invention]Hereafter, the 1 embodiment of this invention is described with reference to (A) thru/or drawing 6 of drawing 1.

[0028](A) of drawing 1 is a figure showing the composition of the information service system concerning the 1 embodiment of this invention.

[0029]That is, the contents offer server 2 which provides digital contents data, and two or more user terminals 3 (3A, 3B, --) are connected via the network networks 1, such as the Internet. In this case, direct continuation of the above-mentioned contents offer server 2 and the user terminal 3 may be

carried out to the above-mentioned network network 1, and they may be connected to it via connection service providing agents, such as an Internet Service Provider.

[0030]In the figure, the user's A user terminal 3A expresses the terminal of the user who is newly going to purchase digital contents data. The user's B user terminal 3B' expresses the terminal of the user who it replaces with the user terminal 3B, is reconnected by change of a terminal at the network network 1, and is going to do re acquisition of the purchased digital contents data for nothing using the user terminal 3B.

[0031]The above-mentioned contents offer server 2 has memorized the digital contents data to provide, and it is provided with various databases which are mentioned later for details, such as user registration DB, the user sale DB, and the contents managing DB.

[0032](B) of drawing 1 is a figure showing the composition of the computer which functions as the above-mentioned contents offer server 2. The above-mentioned user terminal 3 is also provided by computer of the same composition as this, and, therefore, the graphic display and explanation are omitted.

[0033]That is, the computer as the above-mentioned contents offer server 2 consists of CPU21, the input device 22, the display device 23, the printer 24, the memory storage 25, RAM26, the transmission control part 27, etc., as shown in the figure.

[0034]Here, the above-mentioned CPU21 is a control section which controls the whole computer concerned. A keyboard, a pointing device (mouse), and the above-mentioned display device 23 are CRT, a liquid crystal display, etc., and the above-mentioned printer 24 of the above-mentioned input device 22 is a printer.

[0035]A program, data, etc. are memorized beforehand and the above-mentioned memory storage 25 is the composition having contained that this memory storage 25 is magnetic and the recording medium [the CPU21 / above-mentioned /, such as an optical recording medium or semiconductor memory,] 28 which can be read. This recording medium 28 contains fixed media, such as a portability [, such as CD-ROM and a memory card,] type medium and a hard disk. A program, data, etc. which are stored in this recording medium 28, All may be made the composition which receives from the above-mentioned transmission control part 27 via the network networks 1, such as networks, such as WAN from a server or a client, and LAN, and the above-mentioned Internet, in part, The above-mentioned recording medium 28 may be a recording medium of a server or a client built on the network.

[0036]The above-mentioned CPU21 is a work memory used during program execution, and the above-mentioned RAM26 has memorized user registration DB, the user sale DB, the contents managing DB, etc. which were mentioned above.

[0037]The above-mentioned transmission control part 27 is for transmitting and receiving data among other apparatus via the network networks 1, such as networks, such as the above-mentioned WAN and LAN, and the above-mentioned Internet.

[0038](C) of drawing 1 is a figure showing the contents of one record of user registration DB26A provided in the above-mentioned RAM26. Namely, this user registration DB26A registers each user's

information transmitted from each user terminal 3, and memorizes the information on that user terminal 3 (terminal ID) with a user's information the own one concerned, such as a user name and an address, for every user. Terminal ID is the serial number of the terminal concerned, for example, and a user may do a manual entry and it can also be automatically acquired by the user terminal 3 by well-known technology here.

[0039](D) of drawing 1 is a figure showing the contents of one record of user sales DB26B provided in the above-mentioned RAM26. Namely, this user sales DB26B is what registers the information on the digital contents data sold to each user, It is made to correspond to each user's terminal ID, and the update date which are a contents number for specifying the sold contents data, its sales time, and the time that performed re acquisition (new sale of the upgraded contents data is also included) of the contents data concerned is memorized.

[0040](E) of drawing 1 is a figure showing the contents of one record of contents managing DB26C provided in the above-mentioned RAM26. That is, this contents managing DB26C registers the information on each digital contents data to sell, is made to correspond to the contents number of each contents data, and memorizes a contents name and a version.

[0041]Next, the operation in such composition is explained. Drawing 2 thru/or drawing 3 show a series of flow charts for explaining the operation at the time of receiving the content page requested data from the user terminal 3 in the above-mentioned contents offer server 2. This flow chart of a series of is for explaining the program for making the computer which constitutes the above-mentioned contents offer server 2 in the 1 embodiment of this invention realize each function. Although the example stored in the above-mentioned recording medium 28 with the form of the program code which CPU21 can read explains this program, There is no necessity of storing all the functions in the above-mentioned recording medium 28, and it may be made to realize by receiving the part or all from the transmission control part 27 via the network networks 1, such as networks, such as WAN and LAN, and the above-mentioned Internet, if needed.

[0042]That is, with reference to the contents name registered into contents managing DB26C, content page creation is carried out first, and it transmits to the user terminal 3 of it demand-origin (Step S201). Thereby, in the user terminal 3, a content page as shown in (A) of drawing 4 is displayed. That is, a list of the digital contents data which this contents offer server 2 provides, the input storage of the purchase number for specifying the digital contents data to purchase, and "purchase" button and "re acquisition" button are included in this content page.

[0043]And if the demand from the user terminal 3 according to operation of the above-mentioned "purchase" button or "re acquisition" button is received (Step S202), it will distinguish whether it is a re acquisition demand according whether it is a new purchase request by "purchase" button operation to "re acquisition" button operation (Step S203).

[0044]Here, when it distinguishes having received the new purchase request, it receives further (Step S204), the purchase number, i.e., the contents number, which were inputted into the purchase number input storage in the above-mentioned content page And a terminal checking program is transmitted to the above-mentioned user terminal 3 after that (Step S205).

[0045]If this terminal checking program is received, CPU of the user terminal 3 will perform processing as shown in the flow chart of (A) of drawing 5. The program which realizes each function indicated to this flow chart is memorized by memory storage or the recording medium with the form of the program code which CPU can read.

[0046]That is, terminal ID (serial number) of the user terminal 3 concerned is searched first (Step S311). And the searched terminal ID is transmitted to the above-mentioned contents offer server 2 (Step S312).

[0047]In the above-mentioned contents offer server 2, this terminal ID is received (Step S206), user sales DB26B is searched with that terminal ID that received (Step S207), and it is distinguished whether terminal ID which corresponds there is registered (Step S208).

[0048]Here, when applicable terminal ID is not registered, the User Information registration page is transmitted to the user terminal 3 concerned (Step S209). And if User Information inputted in the User Information registration page is received (Step S210), the User Information will be registered into the above-mentioned user registration DB26A with above-mentioned terminal ID (Step S211).

[0049]Then, accounting corresponding to the contents number of the above-mentioned demand is performed (Step S212), and the digital contents data corresponding to this contents number is transmitted to the above-mentioned user terminal 3 (Step S213). And after registering a sales record into user sales DB26B (Step S214), it returns to the above-mentioned step S201.

[0050]When terminal ID which received was already registered into user sales DB26B in the above-mentioned step S208 and it is distinguished on the other hand, It is distinguished by searching user sales DB26B with above-mentioned terminal ID whether the digital contents data of the contents number received at the above-mentioned step S204 is ending with sales (Step S215). And in sold digital contents data further when not sold yet, Whether there is any previous version of the digital contents data of the present specification. It searches from the above-mentioned user sales DB26B (Step S216), when there is no such previous version, it will progress to (Step S217) and the above-mentioned step S212, and the digital contents data of the specification concerned will be sold.

[0051]On the other hand, when it is ending with sales about the digital contents data of a previous version, a version difference discount page is transmitted to the user terminal 3 (Step S218).

Thereby, a version difference discount page as shown in (B) of drawing 4 is displayed on the user terminal 3. This version difference discount page Namely, the contents number of the digital contents data specified by a user, the amount of money, a contents name, and a version, The version of the digital contents data whose user has purchased, the amount of money after the discount at the time of purchasing by upgrade, and a "new purchase" button and an "upgrade purchase" button are included. That is, when it desires not upgrade but new purchase for facilitating of management of users, it enables it to choose the new purchase by the regular sales amount, and the upgrade purchase by discount amount by the user side for a certain reason.

[0052]And if the purchase request from the user terminal 3 according to operation of the above-mentioned "new purchase" button or the "upgrade purchase" button is received (Step S219), the above-mentioned contents offer server 2, It distinguishes whether it is a new purchase request by a

"new purchase" button operation (Step S220), and if that is right, it will progress to the above-mentioned step S212.

[0053]When it was not a new purchase request, i.e., an upgrade purchase request is received, accounting by reduction amount is performed (Step S221), and the digital contents data corresponding to a contents number is transmitted to the above-mentioned user terminal 3 (Step S222). In this case, although the digital contents data for new purchase may be transmitted as it is, it is preferred to transmit the digital contents data for upgrade of difference data with small data volume, etc. And after updating the contents number and update date of a sales record corresponding to the terminal ID concerned of user sales DB26B (Step S223), it returns to the above-mentioned step S201.

[0054]On the other hand, in the above-mentioned step S215, when it is distinguished that the digital contents data of the received contents number is ending with sales, a contents checking program with the contents number is transmitted to the user terminal 3 (Step S224).

[0055](B) of drawing 5 shows the flow chart for explaining operation with the user terminal which received this contents checking program with a contents number.

[0056] That is, the contents checking program which received from the above-mentioned contents offer server 2 is executed, and the existence of the digital contents data corresponding to a contents number is judged within the user terminal 3 concerned (Step S311). And the decided result is transmitted to the above-mentioned contents offer server 2 (Step S312).

[0057]This decided result is received in the above-mentioned contents offer server 2 (Step S225), When the digital contents data concerned exists in the above-mentioned user terminal 3, (Step S226) and a sold message page are transmitted to the above-mentioned user terminal 3 (Step S227), and it returns to the above-mentioned step S201.

[0058]On the other hand, when the digital contents data concerned does not exist in the above-mentioned user terminal 3, a contents re acquisition page is transmitted to the user terminal 3 (Step S228). Thereby, a contents re acquisition page as shown in (C) of drawing 4 is displayed on the user terminal 3. That is, this contents re acquisition page is provided with the following.

The message which shows for nothing that re acquisition is possible since there is nothing to the user terminal 3 concerned, although the digital contents data of the specification concerned is ending with sales.

"Re acquisition" button.

[0059]And the above-mentioned contents offer server 2 returns to the above-mentioned step S201, when it distinguishes whether the re acquisition demand from the user terminal 3 according to the above-mentioned "re acquisition" button operation was received (Step S229) and a re acquisition demand is not transmitted. On the other hand, when a re acquisition demand is received, after transmitting the digital contents data corresponding to a contents number to the user terminal 3 (Step S230), it returns to the above-mentioned step S201.

[0060]On the other hand, in the above-mentioned step S203, when it distinguishes having received

the re acquisition demand by "re acquisition" button operation in the user terminal 3, a terminal checking program is transmitted to the user terminal 3 (Step S231). By this terminal checking program, as it mentioned above, terminal ID is searched with the user terminal 3, If the searched terminal ID is received from the user terminal 3 (Step S232), user sales DB26B will be searched with the terminal ID (Step S233), and the existence of terminal ID of relevance will be judged (Step S234). [0061]If applicable terminal ID is registered into the above-mentioned user sales DB26B, here, The record of the terminal ID is extracted from above-mentioned user sales DB26B (Step S235), The contents list page by a contents number is created (Step S236), and a contents list page with a contents checking program is transmitted to the user terminal 3 (Step S237).

[0062](C) of drawing 5 is a flow chart for explaining operation of the user terminal 3 which received the contents list page with this contents checking program.

[0063] That is, first, the contents checking program which received is executed and the existence of the digital contents data corresponding to a contents number is checked within the user terminal 3 concerned (Step S321). And the decided result for every digital contents data is transmitted to the above-mentioned contents offer server 2 (Step S322).

[0064]In the above-mentioned contents offer server 2, the decided result for every digital contents data of this is received (Step S238).

[0065]Next, in the above-mentioned user terminal 3, as shown in (D) of drawing 4, the discrimination expression of the digital contents data which exists among the received contents list pages, and the digital contents data not existing is carried out (Step S323). And in response to selection of a contents number (Step S324), the selected contents number is transmitted to the above-mentioned contents offer server 2 by a user (Step S325).

[0066]This selected contents number is received in the above-mentioned contents offer server 2 (Step S239). And the received contents number distinguishes based on the decided result which received [above-mentioned] whether it was a thing of the digital contents data which does not exist in the above-mentioned user terminal 3 (Step S240). Here, if it is a contents number of the digital contents data which exists in the above-mentioned user terminal 3, it will progress to Step S242 mentioned later. On the other hand, if the received contents number is a thing of the digital contents data which does not exist in the above-mentioned user terminal 3, the digital contents data corresponding to the contents number will be broadcast again to the above-mentioned user terminal 3 (Step S241). And if there are after that still other receiving contents numbers (Step S242), when return and there will be nothing to the above-mentioned step S240, it returns to the above-mentioned step S201.

[0067]On the other hand, in the above-mentioned step S234, when applicable terminal ID was not registered into the above-mentioned user sales DB26B and it is distinguished, a contents-less page is transmitted to the user terminal 3 (Step S243). Thereby, a contents-less page as shown in (E) of drawing 4 is displayed on the user terminal 3. That is, this contents-less page does not have the appointed digital contents in the user terminal 3 concerned, and, in the case of the re acquisition by terminal change, displays a "terminal change" button with the message which urges it to push a

terminal change button.

[0068]And in the above-mentioned contents offer server 2, in distinguishing whether the terminal change request according to a this "terminal change" button operation was received from the user terminal 3 (Step S244) and not receiving it, it returns to the above-mentioned step S201.

[0069]On the other hand, when a terminal change request is received, the user authentication page for the User Information input is transmitted to the user terminal 3 (Step S245). And User Information inputted in this user authentication page is received from the user terminal 3 concerned (Step S246). Then, the received User Information is searched within the above-mentioned user registration DB26A (Step S247), and the existence of registration is judged (Step S248).

[0070]Here, when not registered, after transmitting a re acquisition improper page to the user terminal 3 (Step S249), it returns to the above-mentioned step S201.

[0071]On the other hand, when registering with the above-mentioned user registration DB26A, terminal ID is acquired from the user registration record (Step S250), and the record of the terminal ID is extracted from above-mentioned user sales DB26B (Step S251). And the contents list page by the contents number included in the extraction record is transmitted to the user terminal 3 (Step S252). Thereby, in the user terminal 3, the contents list page to an unregistered terminal as shown in drawing 6 is displayed. Namely, the contents list page to this unregistered terminal, Terminal ID of the present user terminal 3 (3B'), and terminal ID of the old user terminal 3 (3B), the message urged to choose the list of the sold digital contents data in a user name and the old terminal, and the digital contents of re acquisition hope -- and -- " -- a selection" button and an "individual selection" button are included altogether. When taking a charge to terminal change, the information about a charge required for the terminal change can be included.

[0072]If it ** and the contents number of re acquisition hope is received from the user terminal 3 (Step S253), The digital contents data corresponding to the contents number is transmitted to the user terminal 3 (Step S254), and terminal ID corresponding to the digital contents data concerned in the above-mentioned user sales DB26B is changed (Step S255). In taking a charge to the above-mentioned terminal change, it performs accounting for it. And it returns to the above-mentioned step S201.

[0073]As mentioned above, when the digital contents data specified by a user is provided to the user's user terminal 3, Acquire terminal ID of the user terminal 3 automatically, and the terminal ID and above-mentioned specification digital contents data which were acquired are matched and managed, About the digital contents data which acquired the terminal ID automatically also when there was a demand of the re acquisition of digital contents data, and was provided in the past to the user terminal 3. Since it enabled it to re-provide the digital contents data promptly, When the re acquisition of the digital contents data is needed in the user terminal 3 which acquired digital contents data in the past, only the demand of the re acquisition using the user terminal 3 can perform re acquisition of the digital contents data promptly.

[0074]When the digital contents data specified by a user is provided to the user terminal 3, Since it distinguished automatically whether offer of the specification digital contents data to the user terminal

3 used as the providing destination turns into re-offer, and whether it would become new offer based on terminal ID acquired automatically from the user terminal 3, If a user has, though he forgets whether it is having received offer of the specification digital contents data in the past in the user terminal 3 used now, Since it judges automatically whether offer to the user terminal 3 is re-offer, and whether it is new offer on the side which provides the digital contents data, offer of the disadvantage information which is not can be received.

[0075]Even if it turns out that offer of the digital contents data was received with the user terminal 3, may lose the digital contents data for some Reasons (the case where a device breaks down by a disk crush etc., exchange of OS, etc.), but, in that case -- even if come out and it is -- offer of digital contents data for the second time at the user terminal 3 -- even requiring -- if it carries out, offer of the digital contents data in a different charge from new offer can be received.

[0076]As mentioned above, although this invention was explained based on the embodiment, this invention is not limited to the embodiment mentioned above, and it is needless to say for various modification and application to be possible within the limits of the summary of this invention.

[0077]For example, if it is a registered user, are trying to transmit digital contents data unconditionally in the above-mentioned embodiment, when a terminal change request is received, but. The past terminal change history is memorized, and when a demand is made [returning again the terminal changed once to the original terminal, and], it may be made not to transmit digital contents data. By carrying out like this, one user can prevent installing in two or more terminals the so-called contents of the 1 user 1 terminal contract which is not contents installable in two or more terminals.

[0078]Although the above-mentioned user terminal was explained as a computer, various kinds of digital-information-processing apparatus, such as portable information processors, such as not only this but PDA, or a cellular phone with a network network connection function and a digital camera, and a digital sound player, can be used for it.

[0079]Similarly, it is also possible the contents offer server 2 and to use information processing equipments other than a computer.

[0080]

[Effect of the Invention]It comes to be able to carry out the re acquisition of the digital contents data concerned in easy operation according to this invention, without a user purchasing the digital contents data concerned again, after purchasing charged digital contents data.

[Translation done.]

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DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] The figure showing the composition of the information service system which requires (A) for the 1 embodiment of this invention, The figure showing the composition of the computer on which (B) functions as a contents offer server, the figure in which (C) shows the contents of one record of the user registration DB, and (D) are the figures showing the contents of one record of the user sale DB, and (E) is a figure showing the contents of one record of the contents managing DB.

[Drawing 2] It is a figure showing the first half of a series of flow charts for explaining the operation at the time of receiving the content page requested data from the user terminal in the computer as a contents offer server.

[Drawing 3] It is a figure showing the latter half of a series of flow charts for explaining the operation at the time of receiving the content page requested data from the user terminal in the computer as a contents offer server.

[Drawing 4] The figure in which (A) shows a content page, the figure in which (B) shows a version difference discount page, the figure in which (C) shows a contents re acquisition page, and (D) are the figures showing a contents list page, and (E) is a figure showing a contents-less page.

[Drawing 5] The figure showing a flow chart for (A) to explain the operation at the time of the terminal checking program reception in a user terminal, (B) is a figure showing the flow chart for explaining the operation at the time of the contents checking program reception with a contents number in a user terminal, (C) is a figure showing the flow chart for explaining the operation at the time of the contents list page reception with a contents checking program in a user terminal.

[Drawing 6] It is a figure showing the contents list page to an unregistered terminal.

[Explanations of letters or numerals]

1 Network network

2 Contents offer server

3, 3A, 3B, a 3B' user terminal

21 CPU

22 Input device

23 Display device

24 Printer

25 Memory storage

26 RAM

26A User registration DB

26B User sale DB

26C Contents managing DB

27 Transmission control part

28 Recording medium

[Translation done.]

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1]An information service system which provides information which a user specified among two or more information characterized by comprising the following.

A terminal-identification-information acquisition means which acquires terminal identification information from a terminal of the providing destination when information specified by a user is provided via a network.

A provided information management tool which matches with the above-mentioned provided information terminal identification information acquired by the above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition means, and manages it.

A terminal-identification-information acquisition control means which makes the above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition means acquire terminal identification information from a terminal of the demand origin when there is a demand of re acquisition of provided information to a user.

When judged with memorizing by judging means which judges whether terminal identification information acquired [above-mentioned] is memorized by the above-mentioned provided information management tool, and the above-mentioned judging means, An information re-providing means which re-provides information on past offer memorized by the above-mentioned provided information management tool corresponding to the terminal identification information to the terminal.

[Claim 2]The above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition means transmits a terminal checking program for acquiring terminal identification information of the terminal to a terminal of the above-mentioned providing destination, Acquire terminal identification information from the terminal, and the above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition control means, The information service system according to claim 1 making the above-mentioned terminal checking program transmit to the above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition means, and making it acquire terminal identification information from the terminal to a terminal of the demand origin when there is a demand of re acquisition of provided information to a user.

[Claim 3]In re-offer of provided information by the above-mentioned information re-providing means, Acquire a list of provided information of the past memorized by the above-mentioned provided information management tool corresponding to the above-mentioned terminal identification information, transmit to the request terminal, and the acquired list by specification of provided information from the above-mentioned request terminal. The information service system according to claim 1 transmitting the specified provided information.

[Claim 4]A state decision means to judge whether it is in a situation where the provided information cannot be used in a terminal of the demand origin when there is a demand of re acquisition of the above-mentioned information is provided further, The information service system according to claim 1 characterized by performing re-offer of the above-mentioned information when judged with the above-mentioned information re-providing means being in a situation where the provided information cannot be used in a terminal of a requiring agency by the above-mentioned state decision means.

[Claim 5]User Information about a user of the terminal also memorizes the above-mentioned provided information management tool, and the above-mentioned information re-providing means, When judged with there being no memory by judgment by the above-mentioned terminal identification information by the above-mentioned judging means, Distinguish whether you are a user who is in agreement with User Information memorized by the above-mentioned provided information management tool, if a user of the terminal is a user in agreement, he re-provides the above-mentioned provided information to the terminal, and. The information service system according to claim 1 changing terminal identification information managed by the above-mentioned provided information management tool corresponding to the provided information into the above-mentioned terminal identification information acquired newly.

[Claim 6]Are an information service system which provides information which a user specified among two or more pay information, and when information specified by a user is provided via a network, a terminal of the providing destination is received, A terminal checking program for acquiring terminal identification information of the terminal is transmitted, To a terminal corresponding to terminal identification information acquired by terminal-identification-information acquisition means which acquires terminal identification information from the terminal, and the above-mentioned terminal-identification-information acquisition means by judging whether it is finishing [offer of information on the above-mentioned specification], An information service system possessing a discriminating means which distinguishes re-offer or new offer of information, and an alteration means which changes charge amount of payment to the specification information according to a discriminated result by the above-mentioned discriminating means.

[Claim 7]The information service system according to claim 6, wherein it judges further whether it is finishing [offer] to the terminal for information relevant to the information in new offer of the above-mentioned information and the above-mentioned alteration means changes charge amount of payment to the specification information according to the decided result.

[Claim 8]When information specified by a user is provided via a network among two or more information, Acquire terminal identification information from a terminal of the providing destination,

and the acquired terminal identification information, When it matches with the above-mentioned provided information, it manages and there is a demand of re acquisition of provided information to a user, An information service method characterized by what terminal identification information is acquired from a terminal of the demand origin, and it judges whether the terminal identification information is memorized, and information on past offer memorized corresponding to the terminal identification information is re-provided for to the terminal when memorizing.

[Claim 9]The information service method according to claim 8, wherein acquisition of the above-mentioned terminal identification information is performed by transmitting a terminal checking program for acquiring terminal identification information of the terminal to the above-mentioned terminal.

[Claim 10]When information specified by a user is provided via a network among two or more pay information, a terminal of the providing destination is received, A terminal checking program for acquiring terminal identification information of the terminal is transmitted, By acquiring terminal identification information from the terminal, and judging whether it is finishing [offer of information on the above-mentioned specification] to a terminal corresponding to the acquired terminal identification information, An information service method characterized by what re-offer or new offer of information is distinguished and charge amount of payment to the specification information is changed for according to the discriminated result.

[Claim 11]A function which acquires terminal identification information from a terminal of the providing destination when a computer is provided with information specified by a user via a network among two or more information, A function to match the acquired terminal identification information with the above-mentioned provided information, and to manage it, When there is a demand of re acquisition of provided information to a user, terminal identification information from a terminal of the demand origin Acquisition *****, A program for realizing a function to judge whether the terminal identification information is memorized, and a function to re-provide information on past offer memorized corresponding to the terminal identification information to the terminal when memorizing.

[Claim 12]When a computer is provided with information specified by a user via a network among two or more pay information, a terminal of the providing destination is received, A terminal checking program for acquiring terminal identification information of the terminal is transmitted, To a function which acquires terminal identification information from the terminal, and a terminal corresponding to the acquired terminal identification information by judging whether it is finishing [offer of information on the above-mentioned specification], A program for realizing a function which distinguishes re-offer or new offer of information, and a function to change charge amount of payment to the specification information according to the discriminated result.

[Translation done.]

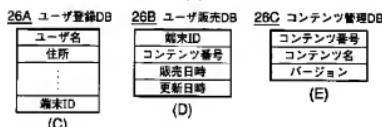
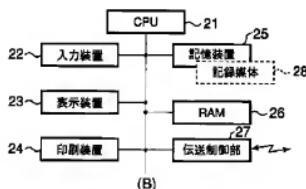
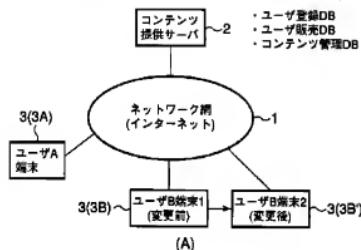
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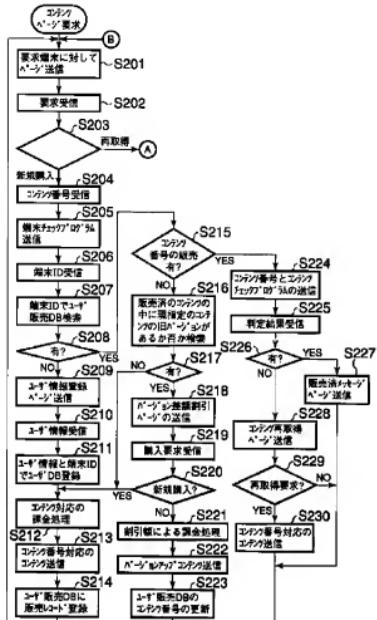
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DRAWINGS

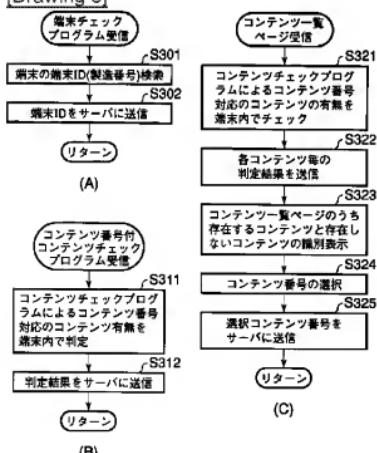
[Drawing 1]



[Drawing 2]



[Drawing 5]

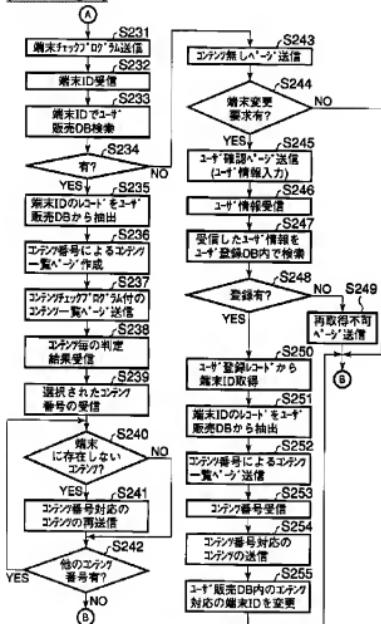


[Drawing 6]

未登録端末へのコンテンツ一覧ページ

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| 端末ID XXXX | 端末変更料金は各コンテンツ料金の1/3。 |
| 旧端末ID XXXX | |
| ユーザ名 XXXX | |
| 旧端末での販売済コンテンツ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 現端末に再取得の番号を選択して下さい (選択後は、旧端末では選択できません) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 全て選択 <input type="checkbox"/> 個別選択 | |

[Drawing 3]



[Drawing 4]

コンテンツページ

コンテンツメニュー

≡ ≡ ≡ ≡ ≡ ≡

購入番号

コンテンツ

(A)

コンテンツ再取得ページ

指定コンテンツは販売済ですが
購入未内にはありません

コンテンツ
(無料)

(C)

バージョン差額割引ページ

指定コンテンツ番号 XXX 金額: XXXX
コンテンツ名: バージョン XXXXXX:XXXX
現保有のコンテンツバージョン XXX:XXXX
バージョン差額: XXXXXX

(B)

コンテンツ一覧ページ

端末ID XXX
ユーザ名 XXXX
販売済コンテンツ

(は購入内に有)

(D)

コンテンツ無ページ

本端末によるコンテンツ販売は
ありません

端末変更による再取得の場合は
端末変更ボタンを

(E)

[Translation done.]